Momentum Rewind Sessions

Momentum Youth Conference (MYC) **is not** a destination or an end, but a *mile marker* in following Jesus. We have designed an intense week to challenge your students' faith. You, on the other hand, have been entrusted with shepherding these students through many formative years. Godspeed.

To better serve you in this partnership we have designed **Momentum** Rewind Sessions as a follow up to MYC's main speakers. The 21 **Momentum** Rewind Sessions follow a simple format (the *What*), geared to help your students remember, rekindle, and reengage God and others (the *Why*).

WHY use M Momentum Rewind Sessions?

Remember key truths God taught them: Within a week of coming home, your students will return to the world of Push notices, Pokemon Go, and peer pressure. Lessons God taught them will fade. *Cultivating spiritual memory is key to maturing in Jesus*. So said the Apostle Paul: "To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you" (Phil. 3:1b, ESV).

Rekindle passion and commitments your students made: When lights are dimmed and music pulsing, students feel their spiritual passion surge. They make commitments and write them down. Then they return home and daily challenges drag them down. Passion requires ongoing attention. The apostle Paul told Timothy to "fan into flames the gift of God..." (2 Tim. 1:6, ESV)

Reengage their spheres of influence: Whatever truth and passion God stirred in your students, He intended it to overflow. God calls each student to live ON MISSION in their sphere of influence – home, church, work, sports, and school – where he or she may show and tell of God's redeeming love. "You are my witnesses," Jesus said (Acts 1:8). This still applies.

WHAT's in the M Momentum Rewind Sessions?

- **Prompt**: Each lesson begins with a question or illustration to peak interest.
- **Play**: Each lesson has a link to a recording of the main speaker's lesson.
- **Process**: Each lesson provides follow up Bible passages and reflection questions.
- **Pray**: Each lesson closes with an opportunity for accountability and prayer.

We recognize curriculum is but one resource in the discipleship process. And there is no shortage of good curriculum. However, in our speedy culture, we believe there is great value in review and reflection. This is designed to build on what God started in your students. Consider letting them lead it.

An **Incentive:** If you pass this curriculum opportunity on to a youth worker who has never brought his/her church to Momentum, and they sign up as a new church,* *you will receive* one **free** registration *for your church*.** Two new churches = two free registrations. **For more information**, call the Momentum office at 574.267.6622 and ask to talk to Erin.

*Each new church must have at least 5 people registered for full the week of conference. **Each free registration is for ONE student and may not be divided between students. **Note**: New churches may be eligible for the new church discount.

₩ Momentum Rewind Page | 1

Rick Cartagena | I Am Changed

Momentum Rewind | Main Session 8 of 9



Core Truth: God changes broken lives to make them His ambassadors.

Rick Cartagena went from stealing cigarettes from his dad to selling drugs on street corners in Philadelphia. Before turning eighteen he was arrested four times and given a fifteen-year sentence. In prison, God changed him. He was "mugged" by God's Spirit. His changed life with Christ led to an early realease from prison and a life of service as Christ's ambassador.

Prompt: Before listening to the dramatic testimony of Rick Cartagena, we will look at another, equally dramatic testimony of the Apostle Paul. Read 1 Timothy 1:12-17. Ask the students to recount some of Paul's sins. Then relay the fact that Paul wrote 13 letters of our NT, planted more than 10 churches, and has shaped Christian faith dramatically. First God had to break him to make him an ambassador.

Let students know Rick Cartagena's testimony will have some "intense" details, but it remains a powerful testimony of how God continues to change lives.

Play: Video of Rick Cartagena, "I Am Changed" www.buildmomentum.org/resources.html

Process: Select from the following questions to help students remember, rekindle and reengage.

- Several times Rick said, "I don't glory in my past. It was a living hell." What were some of the experiences he described?
- Rick said, "When you fail to live life for Jesus, we automatically involve ourselves in things that are inappropriate before our heavenly father. We have a sin nature. Bad choices happen by default." What other factors may have contributed to Rick's reckless choices? How do such factors affect you?
- When you think of such a dramatic turnaround from drug-pushing, gang member to truth-telling ambassador, *how do you feel about your own testimony?*
- Read Ephesians 2:1-10. Thinking especially about the first few verses, how does the Apostle Paul help us see the power of every testimony of faith?
- **K** Read Colossians 1:13-14. Again, what does this passage say about your testimony?
- Rick said, "You don't have to be perfect to share the gospel of Jesus Christ. You have been given the ministry of reconciliation." *How have you seen God use your failures and weaknesses?*
- After his first chapel service in jail, Rick received two Bible studies in the mail. God used His word to break and change him. He said, "[God] set me up. It felt like He entered the room and mugged me. I felt bruised. I felt violated. He flipped me upside-down. Then he offered me hope. He offered me Jesus." Has God ever set you up or used you to set up someone else? Tell.

Pray: Spend time thanking God for changing lives. As a group, encourage students to pray aloud for changes they've seen God do in them. Then have students pray for a person they want God to change.

M Momentum Rewind Page | 10